

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 123057
ORIGIN ERDA-07

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FEA-01 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 EPG-02
DODE-00 EB-07 FPC-01 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 NSAE-00
NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-04 USIA-15 SP-02 STR-04 TRSE-00
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USERDA:AIA:NSIEVERING
ACDA: M MOSS
EUR/RPE: W SALISBURY
T/D: E MCGAFFIGAN

-----272026Z 085659 /75

P 271622Z MAY 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY
INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY
USMISSION EC BRUSSELS PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TECH, GW, FR

SUBJECT: ERDA/BMFT JOINT LMFBR COMMITTEE MEETING JUNE 2-3,
1977

REF: BONN 08050

1. ERDA NOTES WITH CONCERN STATEMENT BY DR. DAEUNERT
REPORTED REFTEL THAT HE TRYING TO HAVE FRENCH OBSERVER
ATTEND US-GERMAN DISCUSSIONS TO AVOID UNNECESSARY COMPLI-
CATIONS IN FRENCH-AMERICAN-GERMAN UNDERSTANDING. PRE-
SUMABLY THESE DISCUSSIONS REFER TO ERDA/BMFT JOINT LMFBR
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COMMITTEE MEETING SCHEDULED FOR JUNE 2-3 IN BONN.

2. EMBASSY MAY RECALL THAT ERDA ATTEMPTED TO CONCLUDE
LMFBR TECHNICAL EXCHANGE AGREEMENT OF BROAD SCOPE WITH
FRENCH CEA BEGINNING APRIL 1975. THIS WOULD HAVE BEEN
OF NATURE SIMILAR TO LMFBR AGREEMENTS CONCLUDED BETWEEN
ERDA AND GERMAN BMFT JUNE 8, 1976 AND BRITISH UKAEA

SEPTEMBER 20, 1976. HOWEVER, BECAUSE OF FRENCH VIEW THAT MUCH OF THEIR LMFBR TECHNOLOGY WAS OF COMMERCIAL VALUE AND CONSEQUENT FRENCH RELUCTANCE TO ENTER INTO

MEANINGFUL EXCHANGE WITH ERDA ABSENT PRIOR FRENCH COMMERCIAL ARRANGEMENTS WITH US INDUSTRY, NEGOTIATION OF PROPOSED BROAD SCOPE ERDA/CEA AGREEMENT WAS TERMINATED NOVEMBER 1976. AT ONE POINT DURING PROTRACTED ERDA/CEA NEGOTIATIONS, ERDA OFFERED TO ENTER INTO PARALLEL AGREEMENTS IN FIELDS OF HIGH TEMPERATURE GAS COOLED REACTORS AND RADIOACTIVE WASTE MANAGEMENT IN EFFORT TO OFFSET ANY POSSIBLE IMBALANCE IN LMFBR FIELD. HOWEVER, THE FRENCH REMAINED RELUCTANT TO CONCLUDE AGREEMENTS IN ANY OF THE THREE FIELDS--LMFBR, HTGR, OR WASTE MANAGEMENT--ABSENT PRIOR COMMERCIAL ARRANGEMENTS. FINALLY, ERDA AND CEA ON JANUARY 18, 1977, CONCLUDED LMFBR AGREEMENT WITH TECHNICAL SCOPE LIMITED TO AREAS OF REACTOR PHYSICS AND SAFETY.

3. IN VIEW OF PAST FRENCH RELUCTANCE TO ENTER INTO AGREEMENT WITH ERDA IN LMFBR EXCEPT FOR AREAS OF REACTOR PHYSICS AND SAFETY, ERDA HAS DIFFICULTY UNDERSTANDING POSSIBLE ROLE OF PROPOSED FRENCH OBSERVER AT MEETING CALLED TO DISCUSS BROAD SCOPE ERDA/BMFT LMFBR AGREEMENT.

4. REGARDING DR. DAEUNERT'S SUGGESTION RE VISIT TO KALKAR, ERDA DELEGATION REGRETS IT NOT PREPARED TO EXTEND STAY IN FRG BY ONE DAY.

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5. EMBASSY SHOULD ALSO INFORM DR. DAEUNERT THAT ERDA PLANS TO TAKE UP THE TOPIC OF HOW OUR BREEDER COOPERATION CAN ENHANCE NON-PROLIFERATION OBJECTIVES. VANCE

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Disposition Case Number: n/a
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